

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1, 3 and 10-12, and ADD new claim 13, as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, all claims currently pending in this application have been reproduced below:

1. (Currently Amended) A positioning apparatus comprising:

a movable member for transmitting a driving force in a driving-axis direction to a stage;

a first electromagnet for driving said movable member in the driving-axis direction by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said first electromagnet and generating first magnetic flux; and

a second electromagnet, which is positioned away from said first electromagnet and arranged in an overlapping direction, for driving said movable member in the same direction as the driving-axis direction of said first electromagnet by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said second electromagnet and generating second magnetic flux having an inverted plurality from the first magnetic flux.

2. (Original) The positioning apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising current control means for applying currents of inverted polarities having substantially a same value to a first coil and a second coil so as to generate magnetic flux of different polarities in said first electromagnet and said second electromagnet, said first coil wound around a core constituting

said first electromagnet and said second coil wound around a core constituting said second electromagnet in a same direction as the first coil.

3. (Currently Amended) The positioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in a case ~~where~~ when currents of a uniform polarity having substantially a same value are applied to the first coil and the second coil, a coil winding direction of the first coil wound around the core constituting said first electromagnet is opposite to a coil winding direction of the second coil wound around the core constituting said second electromagnet.

4. (Original) The positioning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said movable member comprises:

a movable core portion configured with a magnetic material, which forms magnetic paths respectively between said first electromagnet and said movable core portion, and said second electromagnet and said movable core portion; and

a supporting member configured with a nonmagnetic material, which supports said movable core portion.

5. (Original) The positioning apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a third electromagnet, which is positioned away from said second electromagnet and arranged in the overlapping direction of said second electromagnet, for driving said movable member in the driving axis direction by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said third

electromagnet and generating magnetic flux having the same polarity as that of the magnetic flux of said first electromagnet.

6. (Original) The positioning apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said current control means applies currents to respective coils of said first electromagnet, said second electromagnet and said third electromagnet at a ratio of 1:2:1.

7. (Original) The positioning apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a third electromagnet, which is positioned away from said second electromagnet and arranged in the overlapping direction of said second electromagnet, for driving said movable member in the driving-axis direction by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said third electromagnet and generating magnetic flux having the same polarity as that of the magnetic flux of said first electromagnet.

8. (Original) The positioning apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising current control means for applying currents to respective coils of said first electromagnet, said second electromagnet and said third electromagnet at a ratio of 1:2:1.

9. (Original) The positioning apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of electromagnet units, having said first electromagnet and said second electromagnet, for driving

the stage in X-axis, Y-axis and Z-axis directions and a rotational direction around respective axes.

10. (Currently Amended) The positioning apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising a carriage stage for carrying said apparatus on ~~[[a]]~~ an XY plane.

11. (Currently Amended) A charged-particle beam exposure apparatus comprising:

- a charged-particle source for irradiating a charged-particle beam;
- a first electron optical system, having a plurality of electron lenses, for forming a plurality of intermediate images of the charged-particle source by the plurality of electron lenses;
- a second electron optical system for projecting the plurality of intermediate images, formed by said first electron optical system, on a substrate; and
- a positioning apparatus, holding the substrate, for driving a stage to a predetermined position to perform positioning of the stage,

wherein said ~~position~~ positioning apparatus comprises:

- a movable member for transmitting a driving force in a driving-axis direction to a stage;
- a first electromagnet for driving said movable member in the driving-axis direction by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said first electromagnet and generating first magnetic flux; and

a second electromagnet, which is positioned away from said first electromagnet and arranged in an overlapping direction, for driving said movable member in the same direction as the driving-axis direction of said first electromagnet by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said second electromagnet and generating second magnetic flux having an inverted polarity from the first magnetic flux.

12. (Currently Amended) A device manufacturing method comprising:

a step of installing a plurality of semiconductor manufacturing apparatuses, including a charged-particle-beam exposure apparatus, in a factory; and

a step of manufacturing a semiconductor device by using the plurality of semiconductor manufacturing apparatuses,

wherein the charged-particle-beam exposure apparatus comprises:

a charged-particle source for irradiating a charged-particle beam;

a first electron optical system, having a plurality of electron lenses, for forming a plurality of intermediate images of the charged-particle source by the plurality of electron lenses;

a second electron optical system for projecting the plurality of intermediate images, formed by said first electron optical system, on a substrate; and

a positioning apparatus, holding the substrate, for driving a stage to a predetermined position to perform positioning of the stage,

wherein said positioning apparatus comprises:

a movable member for transmitting a driving force in a driving-axis direction to a stage;

a first electromagnet for driving said movable member in the driving-axis direction by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said first electromagnet and generating first magnetic flux; and

a second electromagnet, which is positioned away from said first electromagnet and arranged in an overlapping direction, for driving said movable member in the same direction as the driving-axis direction of said first electromagnet by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said second electromagnet and generating second magnetic flux having an inverted polarity from the first magnetic flux.

13. (New) A positioning apparatus comprising:

a movable member for transmitting a driving force in a driving-axis direction to a stage;

a first electromagnet for driving said movable member in the driving-axis direction by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said first electromagnet and generating first magnetic flux; and

a second electromagnet, which is positioned away from said first electromagnet and arranged in an overlapping direction, which is a perpendicular direction to the driving-axis

direction of said first electromagnet, for driving said movable member in the driving-axis direction by forming a magnetic path between said movable member and said second electromagnet and generating second magnetic flux having an inverted polarity from the first magnetic flux.